

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2 and 5-8 and cancel claim 9 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A fuel cell comprising:

a pair of separators sandwiching ~~outsides~~ of a pair of electrodes provided on both sides of a solid polymer electrolyte membrane; and

an insulating picture frame-shaped member attached to each of the separators for allowing increase and decrease of a space between the separators during movement ~~thereof of the separators~~ while the space between adjacent separators is sealed by a seal ~~comprising~~ said picture frame-shaped member attached at an outer edge of the separators,

wherein said picture frame-shaped member ~~is made of~~ includes an elastic material and said picture frame-shaped member is disposed on both sides of each of ~~said separator~~ separators.
2. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein ~~said a first~~ picture frame-shaped member attached to one of the separators is constituted so as to be able to slide relative to ~~each other~~ a second picture frame-shaped member attached to the other separator and seal said sealing space between the separators.
3. (previously presented) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein said separators are made of a metal, and said picture frame-shaped member is formed of a hard material and an elastic material.
4. (original) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein said picture frame-shaped member has a separator positioning device.

5. (currently amended) A fuel cell stack formed by stacking a plurality of unit fuel cells according to claim 1, wherein a peripheral end surface of each of said separators ~~are is~~ covered by said picture frame-shaped member.
6. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, further comprising a reaction surface peripheral sealing member which surrounds a ~~reaction surface corrugated portion of each of~~ ~~said separators separator, and wherein the outermost portion of said reaction surface peripheral sealing member is covered by an insulating outer edge member.~~
7. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim 6, ~~wherein the~~ further comprising an insulating outer edge member for covering an outermost portion of said separator located exterior of said reaction surface peripheral sealing member ~~is totally covered by an~~ wherein said insulating outer edge member ~~which~~ is integrally formed with said reaction surface peripheral sealing member.
8. (currently amended) A fuel cell according to claim 7, wherein a ~~said~~ first reaction surface peripheral sealing member of a respective separator is formed in a flat shape, and a ~~said~~ second reaction surface peripheral sealing member of ~~the~~ an adjacent separator which faces to said flat reaction surface peripheral sealing member is formed so as to protrude.
9. (canceled)
10. (withdrawn) A fuel cell, comprising a pair of separators sandwiching a pair of electrodes formed on both surfaces of a solid polymer electrolyte membrane, and insulating

members provided around communication holes formed in said separators, so as to form a space between the insulating members.

11. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 10, wherein a space is provided between two of said insulating members of adjacent separators in the stacking direction of the separators.

12. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 11, wherein respective insulating members of respective adjacent separators are formed such that adjacent separators are capable of relatively sliding so as to allow increase and decrease of the space between separators while said insulating members are sealing the spaces between separators.

13. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 12, wherein said insulating members are made of an elastic material.

14. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 13, wherein inner peripheral surfaces of the communication holes are covered by the insulating member.

15. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 14, wherein one of the insulating members of one of adjacent separators is formed in a flat shape, and another one of the insulating member of another one of adjacent separators facing to said one of the flat insulating member is formed in a protruded shape.

16. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 15, comprising reaction surface peripheral sealing members surrounding reaction surfaces of said separator, wherein one of the reaction surface peripheral sealing member of one separator among adjacent separators is formed in a flat shape, while another one of the reaction surface peripheral sealing member of another separator facing said flat reaction surface peripheral member is formed in a protruded shape.

17. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 16, wherein an outside portion of said reaction surface peripheral sealing member is totally covered by said insulating member.

18. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 17, wherein said reaction surface peripheral sealing member and said insulating member are integrally formed.

19. (withdrawn) A fuel cell according to claim 18, wherein both outside surfaces of said reaction surface peripheral sealing member are totally covered by the insulating member which is integrally formed with said reaction surface peripheral sealing member.